

**REMARKS**

Applicants reply to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated July 18, 2006, in which this Reply is filed within the shortened one month period of reply.

The Examiner has asserted a Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 requiring restriction of the application as follows.

Invention I: Claims 1, 6, 7-10, 11-13 and 22, drawn to methods of searching and purchasing an item from a retailer, classified in class 705, subclass 36.

Invention II: Claims 14-21, drawn to establishing and reconciling a budget, classified in class 705, subclass 30.

Applicant respectfully submits that examination of all currently pending claims would not pose an undue burden on the Examiner. Section 803 of The Manual of Patent Examining Procedure states that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions." Applicant therefore respectfully requests examination of all currently pending claims.

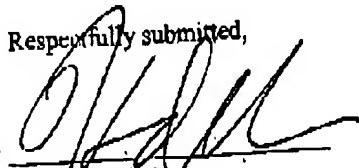
Applicant hereby elects Invention I, consisting of Claims 1-6, 7-10, 11-13 and 22, for prosecution in this application. Applicant has selected Invention I in order to expedite prosecution of this application. Applicant does not acquiesce to the Examiner's foundation for the Restriction Requirement as set forth in the Office Action. Accordingly, the foregoing election is made without waiver, estoppel or without prejudice to the filing of one or more related applications directed to the subject matter of the canceled claims.

The foregoing amendment conforms this application to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement dated June 14, 2006. Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for

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examination on the merits. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any suggestions to place the application in even better condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below. No new matter is added in this Response. Reconsideration of the application is thus requested.

Dated: July 24, 2006

Respectfully submitted,  
  
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